



Revitalizing the Village of Clarksburg in Rural Ohio

**An Honors Thesis (LA 404)**

**By**

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## Abstract

The following comprehensive project explores the potential for a contemporary small, rural village to become an active, safe, and desirable place to live, visit, and explore. Clarksburg, Ohio provides an ideal remote village site for a positive community transformation to occur through a design process. The research findings reveal effective greenway connections to rural communities, successful village design elements, outdoor centralized activity and recreational spaces that enhance a sense of community, winter park opportunities, and design inspiration from the Ohio Hopewell Native Americans. Overall, the findings uncover a clear design solution for enhancing Clarksburg, Ohio.

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"No I cannot forget where it is that I come from  
I cannot forget the people who love me  
Yeah, I can be myself here in this small town  
And people let me be just what I want to be  
Well I was born in a small town  
And I can breathe in a small town  
Gonna die in this small town  
And that's prob'ly where they'll bury me"  
-John Cougar Mellencamp

Typically in landscape architecture, designs are focused in urban areas. In Ohio for example, more than one-fourth of the population lacks well-designed outdoor spaces if rural communities are not receiving attention from landscape architects. Approximately 25.9% of Ohio residents live in a rural setting (Urban). Many of these small populated rural communities do not have any parks, bicycle lanes, or well-maintained sidewalks. This deprives the residents from having outdoor gathering spaces, a place for children to play, and recreation.

This project focuses on Clarksburg, Ohio, located in Southern Ohio. It is a small rural village, with a population of 516 in 2000, and has an area of only 0.2 square miles. Overall, it is a low-income community, with the median household income being \$32,159. It lacks connectivity to nearby towns and lacks quality parks or outdoor gathering spaces.

This project provides landscape architecture design and elements for improvement of the community. Connections to nearby towns are made by connecting Clarksburg with the nearby existing Tri-County Triangle Greenway. Furthermore, village design foundations provide the community with an enhanced streetscape, a more walkable village, a centralized outdoor gathering space, and a stronger sense of community. This region of Ohio currently retains a rich history that is reflected in details and environmental art within the site design.

Clarksburg provides a traditional setting for the residents. Because a strong sense of

place is formed, the village can become an important image and memory for those who once lived there, those who continue to reside there, and those who want to move there.

## Section I: The Problem and Its Setting

## I.I Problem Statement

This study concentrates on ways in which landscape architectural methods, techniques and designs contribute to enhancing the community sense of place and overall design within the rural village of Clarksburg, Ohio and its surrounding region. Clarksburg lacks multimodal connections to nearby towns and a public open space is currently not provided for the residents. This study proposes a regional greenway network plan including a connection with Clarksburg to the existing Tri-County greenway that runs along an abandoned railroad. This connects Clarksburg to small nearby rural towns, historic Chillicothe and Frankfort. A community master plan redesigns the village to enhance a community sense of place. A site plan provides a public gathering space located in the center of Clarksburg within two adjacent vacant and underutilized lots near the stoplight. The community gathering space includes a safe place for children to play, a community building, restroom facilities, outdoor dining, and a stage. Another site plan features a mound area next to the Methodist church used for an outdoor movie theatre during the warm seasons and for sledding in the winter. These plans focus on the village's history, while providing connections between important town traditions with current and future landscapes, open spaces, and towns. The region's history influences environmental art that is incorporated within each plan.

## I.2 Sub-problems

1. Which greenway approaches and design features can be utilized to provide a connection for Clarksburg and surrounding communities?
2. Which village design principles should be included in the community plan to enhance the community sense of place?
3. What desirable aesthetic, functional and safety features should be included in the master plan that address all four seasons and will provide a play area year-round?
4. How should the local Native American history influence artistic and functional features on the community and site scale?



### I.3 Definition of Terms

**Earthworks:** A form of land art that plays with the landscape's topography that provides enclosure and aesthetic appeal for those passing by.

**Greenway:** A network of corridors and paths along an abandoned railroad or other linear corridor that provides recreation and connections between a region's communities.

**Hamlet:** A form of a rural community including less than 400 residents that supports the community through the bare essential facilities such as a post office, bank, and general store.

**Human scale:** A physical attribute within a space that enhances the user's comfort by allowing them to not feel overwhelmed by the size of their surroundings.

**Neotraditional design:** A design philosophy regarding a compact, walkable community, that reflects successful past and historic community design traits.

**Streetscapes:** A roadway arrangement including pedestrian, vehicular and bike traffic that enables smooth circulation while enhancing the sense of place within the community.

**Village:** A small populated community in either a rural or suburban setting which often includes community services such as a post office, church, and school.

## I.4 Assumptions

1. The Tri-County Triangle Greenway continues to be maintained.
2. The population trend continues decreasing as it has in the past 25 years in the village of Clarksburg, Ohio.
3. There is available land through public domain for the greenway and trail connections.

## I.5 Delimitations

1. Community building structures and earthworks is designed throughout the project, however, not all will be detailed.
2. There are many important historical features in Southern Ohio that can contribute to design inspiration, however, this study focuses on the history of the Ohio Hopewell Native Americans.
3. This study does not include funding sources and grants needed to construct the project.
4. The existing playground and baseball fields are enhanced but not part of the master plan design.

## 1.6 Significance

People, no matter how large their community is, deserve a well-designed park or open green space. The people in Clarksburg live in a very rural area in Southern Ohio, and they lack a connection to any other nearby towns or villages. Most Clarksburg residents are low-income families who cannot afford to drive to a town that has a nice park. However, the village has several year-round activities, yet nowhere to hold them outside, and children do not have an organized space to play. Simply, their entertainment is lacking, and a centralized outdoor gathering space would provide them with a space for activities, village pride, and recreation without the need to drive a car to get there. This gathering space could connect with the existing Tri-County Triangle Greenway, and become a destination for residents of nearby towns. Furthermore, a revitalization of the village design could improve the village's sense of community. This research can contribute to future designs in rural areas that also lack parks and coherent community design and hopefully spark the interest and support in designing in such locations. While money is usually not available for such communities, this project could inspire other designers to strive for government grants to fund similar projects.

## I.7 Project Goals and Objectives

**Goal:** Create connections for Clarksburg to nearby towns.

*Objective 1:* Connect Clarksburg to the existing Tri-County Triangle greenway.

*Objective 2:* Implement new trail routes extending from the existing Tri-County Triangle greenway.

**Goal:** Enhance the village of Clarksburg's sense of community.

*Objective 1:* Increase the community's walkability and bike usage, to encourage frequent interactions among residents.

*Objective 2:* Provide a centralized gathering space to provide a venue for community activities, markets, festivals, and recreation.

*Objective 3:* Provide a year-round area used for entertainment with an outdoor movie screen and sledding mounds.

*Objective 4:* Enhance and update the existing playground and baseball fields to increase their usage.

**Goal:** Reflect the region's Hopewell Native American history.

*Objective 1:* Use Hopewell Native American artifacts as precedents for art installations within Clarksburg.

*Objective 2:* Create similar landforms to the Hopewell Native American mounds within the proposed park.

## I.8 Design Concerns

1. It will be challenge to implement an outdoor community center that will have a function during the cold and snowy winter.
2. Physical connections to the Hopewell Native American mounds will provide a challenge.

## I.9 Design Considerations

1. The Hopewell Native American artifacts and mounds provide great precedents and inspiration for design layouts, landforms and environmental art implemented throughout the design and site.
2. The natural systems surrounding Clarksburg are significant because they provide a corridor for a greenway connection to be established.
3. The neighborhoods within the village of Clarksburg play an important role within the revitalization of the village.
4. The activities that occur at the Clarksburg Methodist Church initiates the program for the proposed mound amphitheater.
5. Seasonal holidays provide the opportunity for a seasonal activity space in the heart of the village.
6. The need for quality recreational activities iniates the program for the central youth recreational area.

## I.10 Mission Statement

The mission of this project is to enhance the village of Clarksburg, Ohio on a regional, community, and site scale. The village is connected to nearby towns through a greenway, enhancing the region's wildlife, while encouraging recreation. The village center is strengthened by increasing community opportunities for activities. This enhanced village center also increases reasons to make use of new public spaces by individuals and groups, and in village-wide celebrations. The region's Hopewell Native American history provides art precedents for the landscape, establishing a creative connection with history and strong sense of place.

## Section II: Review of Literature



## II.1 Introduction

Rural landscapes provide challenges for communities of varying sizes. Often, these communities lack connectivity to one another, lack core design principles, and are in need of public green spaces and recreational use. Greenways can provide connections, as well as recreation for rural community dwellers. Due to their small populations, rural villages have the potential to develop a strong sense of community if designed suitably. Furthermore, rural communities hold strong historical value. The purpose of this review of literature is to explore the potential benefits of greenway connections to Clarksburg, Ohio, inclusive village design, historical value of the Ohio Hopewell Native American sites for art precedents, and essential park elements for outdoor community gathering spaces needed to increase the quality of life of small populations in rural settings, who so often are overlooked.

## II.2 Greenway Approaches

Greenways can be defined as corridors along natural features such as streams, rivers or ridges, as well as linear spaces along historic infrastructure strips such as canals or railroads. Greenways create connections for people within towns and regions. They provide physical activity, recreation and transportation for nearby residents (What Design 76). They not only benefit humans, but also the environment, by enhancing wildlife and preserving natural landscapes (What Design 75).

There are several environmental and design factors that affect the amount of users for a greenway. According to Augustin, practicing environmental psychologist, greenways connecting parks and linking to small populated areas receive more use than those linking communities with only higher populations (134). The most usage occurs along the greenway when the greenway and park systems connect the small populated communities to large populated areas (Augustin 134). A good example of this is the case study of the National Heritage Corridor. It is located in Stark County, Ohio, along a section of the old Ohio and Erie Canal. Environmental Design Group and Schmidt Copeland Parker Stevens were the landscape architecture firms responsible for designing this greenway (Stein 30). The finished project implements 21 sections of looping off-road trails, connecting seventeen townships and fifteen existing villages and cities of varying sizes, reaching all of Stark County's residents (Stein 32). These connections are not just merely population connections, but the greenway also connects cultural and natural features. These include "schools, cemeteries, historic downtowns, water reservoirs, museums, parks, and the Professional Football Hall of Fame in Canton" (Stein 30). This method of connecting small populations to larger populations through a greenway provides a great precedent for Clarksburg since it is located near a larger village, Frankfort, and a small town, Chillicothe. This design concept brings residents of Frankfort and Chillicothe to visit Clarksburg.

The National Heritage Corridor has further provided the smaller villages within the greenway system to have a new identity which celebrates their old identity, referring to the design method of neotraditional design. These villages have been around for a while, holding a strong sense of community, much stronger than urban areas. To further strengthen this sense of community, historic landscape features should be uncovered, revealed and connected to the present cultural features through the greenway. "What a tremendous opportunity for these communities to market their history, lifestyle, and picturesque scenery" (Stein 30). The users will travel along the greenway and begin to see their familiar villages through a new lens (Stein 30). Similarly, Clarksburg and its surrounding region have a rich history that is celebrated through the landscape along the proposed greenway.

The greenway promotes people to easily explore other nearby communities, helping the other communities' economies, while simultaneously encouraging recreation (Stein 32). Because these communities have become a part of a greenway connection, they are more likely to accept revitalization for their community (Stein 32). Overall, this case study provides an example of the benefits of greenways through economic revitalization, a connection to the communities' history and recreation through trails. From the proposed greenway connections, Clarksburg gains economic benefits from residents of larger nearby communities making visits by utilizing the greenway's connection.

Design features such as openness and interconnectedness, greenness, land-use diversity, trail sinuosity, materials, weather, amenities, and trail intersections affect the trail traffic of users as well. Each of these features were researched and focused on through 33 miles of trails of six greenway corridors in Indianapolis to discover which features increased and decreased greenway trail usage (What Design 75). The results conclude that overall greenway traffic is higher during weekends, summer, fall, and warm and sunny days. Trails connecting high density neighborhoods, with lower median incomes, and few children and



elderly people have high amount of pedestrian traffic. Also, a high volume of commercial land use and parking increase pedestrian trail traffic. Furthermore, an increase in greenway usage resulted from large amounts of vegetation and green space along the corridor, large open viewsheds with changes of scenery, and greater land-use diversity within viewsheds. These viewsheds contribute to a greater mystery about the upcoming experience along the greenway corridor for the users, which is acclaimed as a desired feeling (What Design 77). Less pedestrian traffic along the greenway corridors are caused from a lack of paved surfaces, an existence of rail crossings, and consistent views. Curves, slopes and amenities such as art, public phones, benches, and public bathrooms did not provide a conclusive result within the research (What Design 77). This article has different conclusions than the article by Augustin. Rather than focusing only on the nearby neighborhood populations, it focuses on design elements that create a successful greenway corridor. However, both articles agree that greenways connecting large populations have more users. The proposed connections from Clarksburg to the existing Tri-County Greenway include large open viewsheds with changes of scenery to increase its appeal. There are no rail crossings still in use near Clarksburg, contributing to higher numbers of users.

Another prominent case with an ecological approach is the Mississippi Greenway Strategic Plan. The plan was generated for the city of Hastings, Minnesota and designed by the landscape architects of Hoisington Koegler Group Inc (Martin 40). The greenway primarily linked woodlots, streambeds, and parks without interrupting the development that already existed. It had many ecological benefits through supporting species migration, diversity, aquifer recharge, wetland, and steep slopes. The greenway ran along corridors and ridges. Most of the greenway is at least 150' wide in order to support species mitigation. However, part of the greenway acts as an edge and buffer for the rural landscape rather than attending to ecology. Lastly, it has raised public awareness for the surrounding community, allowing the public to

realize the importance of rural landscape preservation and ecology (Martin 43).

Unlike the National Heritage Corridor, the Mississippi Greenway plan primarily focuses on benefiting the environment and wildlife. The National Heritage Corridor focuses on cultural and physical connections through a county's landscape. The proposed project is a combination of both. It is probable that the proposed greenway will run along a stream a mile from Clarksburg, connecting through trails. Therefore, there is strong potential for an increase of species mitigation and ecological benefits. Also, the culture is focused on, and connections to the region's history are created through landforms and art along the greenway.

### II.3 Village Design Principles

Villages are communities with small populations and have been present in the United States throughout history and still exist today. They can be found in rural or suburban settings, but this research focuses on the rural villages. Because of their popularity and success through the ages, there is a strong desire to replicate and create modern villages as well as preserve old and historic villages through design today.

A village is defined as “small, intimate, quiet; one knows the other villagers and may even be related to them” (Sucher 15). Sucher, a planner, development professional, lawyer and author, lists the following words to describe a village: “tranquility, structure, together, friendly, close by, kindred, limits, stasis, natural, simple, small, cottage, conservative, and familiar” (Sucher 16). There are various types of villages. Sutro, a community planner, describes a hamlet as the smallest form of a village, lacking a central park and commercial core, but merely a cluster of homes in a rural setting (3). However, it has the capability of becoming a village. Hart, an American geographer, describes hamlets as having a general store, elementary school, church, and post office (311). A residential village “often includes community services, such as a church or post office” (Sutro 3), but has the capability to emerge as a commercial village, which partakes in the region’s economy. Hart describes small villages to have facilities such as a barber, hardware store, garage and drugstore and also all the facilities that hamlets have (311). Clarksburg is labeled as a residential village; however it lacks the characteristics of even a hamlet. It holds the potential to obtain the elements of a hamlet and residential village, and possibly even a commercial village if businesses find interest in Clarksburg. The proposed Clarksburg master plan provides the village with a strong sense of identity and community, and it has the potential to become a destination, and therefore, businesses have new interests in the village.

Several elements can be identified for a successful village design. Planners such as

Sutro believe these include “a compact form, a mix of residential and commercial uses, a well-defined edge, and a pedestrian orientation” (Sutro 2). A strong sense of community, layout of the village, connectivity, walkability, and streetscapes play an important role within these model villages (Sutro 2).

A strong sense of community can be formed and radiated outward from the center of the village. The village center should include a focal point such as any commercial uses, community centers, public activities, park or public green. It can be challenging to find the space for a village square in an already existing village layout, but if somewhere there is vacant land, it can act as a square for not only that space, but also for the surrounding areas (Sutro 18). Hart highlights the importance of commerce in central spaces, “every human group needs marketplaces where its members can exchange their surplus goods” (301). Therefore, these central spaces can also enhance the local economy. Also furthering the use of the central space, annual fairs and festivals can be held there, strengthening the sense of community. They can focus on the village’s rural setting, such as an agricultural fair (Hart 307). Sutro further explains the success of small gathering spaces throughout the village to enhance the centralized space (18). These can include spaces for outdoor dining, or seating areas outside buildings. All of these elements promote and easily allow sociability and a community atmosphere (Sutro 18).

Additionally, the social factors of a community are important to residents’ satisfaction of their neighborhood (Augustin and Cackowski-Campbell 96). This is confirmed through research completed by the University of California. Northern California residents of four suburban communities and four traditional neighborhoods, with similar income levels and housing prices, were surveyed about what design aspects make them satisfied in their neighborhoods (Augustin and Cackowski-Campbell 94). The suburban communities are characterized by their new construction, curvilinear streets, cul-de-sacs, low density, and only residential land use.



The traditional neighborhoods were built before 1940, had a grid street pattern, short blocks, through streets, and mixed land use. By comparing the survey results, a conclusion was made by the researchers that traditional neighborhoods are favored over suburban neighborhoods (Augustin and Cackowski-Campbell 94). Contrasting what would be expected, the availability of parking, quiet, large yards, cul-de-sacs, and low density did not provide high satisfaction for the suburban neighborhood residents. Moreover, high density, and the proximity to destinations through mixed land use did not provide satisfaction for the traditional neighborhood residents. Instead, the greatest satisfaction for suburban residents stemmed from the economic homogeneity while the liveliness, social ties, and diversity provided the most satisfaction for the traditional neighborhood residents (Augustin and Cackowski-Campbell 94). Similarly, Sucher also emphasizes the importance on the social aspect in neighborhoods. He exclaims, "the real importance of a neighborhood, at least to me, is that it is composed of neighbors... it's the neighborliness" (Sucher 17). But neighbors are not just neighbors because they live close to one another. Neighbors are acquainted with each other, and hold a sense of responsibility to one another. This creates a connection through a human scale (Sucher 17). It is the social interaction that makes a great neighborhood.

In addition, a village's layout is important in terms of walkability. In order to achieve a tight-knit community feel, it is necessary for residents to be within a comfortable walking distance to the center of the village. This means the village layout should not extend further than  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile radius (Sutro 25). People will be able to interact and socialize easily while walking to and from various community activities held in the center of the village. Atkinson, a regional planner, also agrees that compact, walkable communities are very important. If residents of a community begin to walk to their destinations, their journeys can be designed for experiences to occur. Mixed use commercial areas can be connected with amenities such as open space and public art. The people begin to stop and enjoy their surroundings (Atkinson

18). Additionally, it not only benefits the residents on a social aspect, but also an economic aspect. "It is less expensive for the development community and town because growth is tied to existing infrastructure, schools, parks and jobs" (Atkinson 18). Walkable communities create these connections between these vital community features.

Sutro and Hart both provided information based on the importance of a centralized gathering space within a community. Augustin and Cackowski-Campbell provided research results clarifying traditional neighborhoods are favored over suburban neighborhoods because of the social interaction that takes place in the neighborhood. Sucher further emphasizes the importance of social interaction between neighbors. Each of these authors believes that the social interaction between residents in a community creates a desirable atmosphere and strong sense of community. Atkinson provides another design feature to enhance the sociability in a community, which is walkability. Therefore, this is why the Clarksburg design highlights a centralized gathering space, with a walkable layout, so that neighbors can interact, bond and create strong relationships. This will allow the Clarksburg residents to find a strong satisfaction in their village, and deepen the sense of community.

Additionally, the layout of the streets in a village, neighborhood or community, plays an important role. If new streets are added, they should follow the pattern of the already existing streets (Sutro 25). Nevertheless, neighborhood streets following a grid are the most suitable, even though cul-de-sacs have become the standard choice since World War II. That is because cul-de-sacs provide more lots than streets on a grid (Sucher 72). This is not a problem for Clarksburg, since it is located far from other towns, and it has the space available for growth and lots, if necessary. The grid provides the best layout choice because it avoids dead ends, the streets are continuous, and abundant connections are made, allowing traffic to be dispersed throughout a network of streets. A street grid includes varying hierarchical streets: arterials, collectors, and feeders. It is not necessary for the grid layout to be in a

rectangular form (Sucher 72). Sucher's emphasis on the street grid contrasts from Augustin and Cackowski-Campbell's findings. They did not discuss the technical reasons behind cul-de-sacs, but they found that cul-de-sacs did not lower the satisfaction of residents who lived in suburban neighborhoods with them. However, Augustin and Cackowski-Campbell found traditional neighborhoods to be the most desired, and they include short blocks, which Sucher also agrees is necessary for a successful community design. He defines short blocks as being less than 240 feet, and are suitable because they act as a traffic-calming device. This is because there are more intersections, and hence more stopping and a lower average auto speed. These intersections also provide a more walkable community due to more crosswalks. Furthermore, "a journey seems quicker, livelier, and more eventful when punctuated by crossing streets" (Sucher 73). The layout of Clarksburg should be reevaluated, and creating smaller block sizes should be considered to ensure a more enjoyable and safe experience for pedestrians. A grid layout already exists in Clarksburg and it is proposed to be maintained.

In villages, it is recommended that parking be established in the back of buildings and connected through driveways or alleys, and preferably shared driveways. This allows the parking to be hidden from the views to the building fronts. Because of the size of the village, it is possible to connect all commercial parking and community parking to one another through these driveways (Sutro 16). For residential areas, on-street parking is highly encouraged because it buffers "pedestrians from moving traffic while enhancing the sense of enclosure provided by building walls and street trees, making the street feel like a comfortable, intimate place" (Sutro 16). In the existing conditions, parking is hardly apparent in Clarksburg, and keeping the parking limited while further promoting walking and biking is a great option for the village. Since Clarksburg's area is roughly only 0.2 square miles, it is not difficult to eliminate the obligation of a vehicle within the village.

Streetscapes also play an important role within good village design. Sutro describes



a street as an outdoor room (19). The ideal village streetscape includes well-maintained sidewalks with shade trees 5-10 feet away from the edge, street furniture and low fences. The street furniture should include, but is not limited to, streetlights, benches, planters, pavement patterns, and trash receptacles. The fences will provide privacy and defined edges and spaces. The sidewalks should not only be included along the main roads, but also around buildings and parking to provide walkability throughout the village, and create thorough connections (Sutro 18). The recommended street width is 20-30 feet (Sutro 26). Traffic-slowing is also important and can be achieved by "lowering speed limits, permitting on-street parking, adding crosswalks of different paving materials, and even narrowing the roadway by widening sidewalks or adding planting beds" (Sutro 25). New paving materials, uniform street trees and planting beds help enclose the streets and create a wonderful sense of place within Clarksburg. It greatly improves the aesthetics.

Sutro provides more specific components of a village house for a prosperous village (7). Each house lot should have at least one canopy tree or two flowering trees. A front yard raised above the sidewalk by at least 18 inches, with any sort of retaining wall is desired. Also, a fence which is 30 inches or taller, surrounding the house adds great aesthetic appeal. Furthermore, garages should be placed farther back than the housing unit, preferably at least 20 feet, and within five feet of the lot-line on either side (Sutro 7). These suggestions would require a large revitalization to the current housing in Clarksburg. These standards will be remembered for new construction and infill projects to help with the overall design of the village.

## II.4 Park Elements for an Outdoor Community Hub

Thomas Balsley, an award-winning landscape architect, has designed many parks in New York City and throughout the nation. Zeiger, writer of architecture and media, states Balsley's views on the necessity of parks and how they express Americans' "democratic ideals", increasing the overall quality of life and meeting one's democratic expectations (82). Parks are essential for strong human health. Pastoral parks benefit emotional health, while active recreational parks benefit physical health. They are destinations within communities, and include year-round design features and elements.

Many aesthetic features and functional elements should be considered within park design. Dahl and Molnar, landscape architects, believe "too much uniformity results in monotony [and] excessive dissimilarity breeds chaos" (34). It is the order and variety which creates a well-balanced park design. Lines, forms, textures and colors should also be carefully considered. Fine textures can create a casual appearance, and rough textures and straight lines produce a very strong appearance (Dahl and Molnar 35). When choosing colors, it is important to think about the users. If children will be the primary users of a park, then bright and bold colors, especially red, might become the only focus. However, this would draw in users, and create curiosity. Primarily, these decisions should be made based on the desired personality of the park. Clarksburg's central community gathering space will include users of all ages, and therefore, the colors and materials should cater to a variety of users.

Human scale should also be considered for the users. Primarily for a small park, human scale should be reflected through design. This can be accomplished through enclosure, which a tree canopy can easily create. Also, a "Lack of vertical definition creates mental ambivalence. Strong vertical planes provide a message of movement to the eye" (Dahl and Molnar 40). These vertical elements can include trees, shrubs, grasses, buildings and towers. Clarksburg is located within the rolling hills of Appalachia, and therefore vertical elements formed in a line

enrich the topography.

Dahl also provides several functional considerations for parks. Layout and orientation is an important factor of park design. The layout of sport complexes should correspond to the sun's pattern in the sky. Tennis courts should be aligned perpendicular to the sun's course and baseball diamonds should not cause the batter's eyes to be affected by the sun (Dahl and Molnar 50). If there is a focal point in the park, the sun should be located behind the viewer. A breeze will need to occur to rid the cooking smoke in picnic areas. Furthermore, Zeigler states Balsley's philosophy that a central space within the park should be available to anyone at any time, providing a flexible program (81). This will allow secondary and tertiary spaces to provide more human experiences (Zeigler 81).

Further elements Balsley finds important within parks are "historical nods, ecological sensitivity, esplanades" and places to sit such as benches, lounges, and seat walls (Zeiger 85). He especially likes bright red Adirondack chairs, used in Queens' Gantry Plaza State Park (Zeiger 85). Balsley finds the details of every park design element essential and important.

Plants play a vital role in park design. According to Dahl and Molnar, "plants can form spaces, direct circulation, provide detail interest, deter wind, supply shade, buffer odors, suffocate noise, and retard erosion" (66-67). Plants provide conveniences in design through their predictable shapes, forms, growth rates and sizes. The plants included in Clarksburg's outdoor gathering space create outdoor rooms through their forms, while deterring cold winter winds.

Material choice has several fundamentals to be considered. These include durability, appearance, availability, tactile, climatic adaptability, and drainability. These should all be considered through their relation to the use of the material. For example, when surface treatments are being considered, the following are practical: "soft and drainable under the play piece; durable where constant foot traffic is expected" (Dahl and Molnar 63). Recommended



mulch is "Pinnacle Playground Rubber Mulch (Speckhardt 95). Six inches of this mulch provides cushion for any child's fall. It is made from scrap tires, and lasts at least twelve years (Speckhardt 95). Recycled materials are included for the proposed design, and create a green statement for Clarksburg. Since Clarksburg receives snow throughout the winter, material choices should also be thought about in relationship to the cold, snow and ice. Paving materials that easily heat up, such as brick and darker concrete, help melt snow, and therefore are useful during the winter (Arvidson 80). Exposed aggregate easily becomes icy, and therefore should be avoided while choosing surface materials. Concrete or brick pavers are great alternatives because they provide traction (Arvidson 77).

Winter has many challenges associated with park design, requiring special attention to be made for various park elements, besides just material choice. The park's main winter challenge is its aesthetics. Successful winter parks have rectilinear structures to contrast with the softness of the snow. These structures can be buildings, terraces, and stone walls. Trees such as sugar maples and birch trees provide a further contrast of nature against these structures (Arvidson 72). Avoid using evergreens near pathways because the shade will cause paths to ice-over more easily (Arvidson 80). These design elements enclose and divide the park space to create outdoor rooms. Additionally, the community gathering space provides places for warm pockets and sun spots. It should also be kept in mind that landforms can cause snowdrifts depending on the prevailing winds and adjacent vegetation. If designed successfully, landforms can provide shelter to these cold winds (Arvidson 80).

Lions Park in rural Greensboro, Alabama provides a great example of park elements that enhance a small community. Every year a design-build architecture class at Auburn University focuses on design for this park to satisfy their thesis project requirement (Gerfen 81). The Greensboro community is made up of 2,000 residents. Thanks to these students and their professor, Lions Park now contains a place for active recreation through four full-sized baseball diamonds and two T-ball fields (Gerfen 83). Public restrooms have been installed,



constructed with inexpensive metal roof deck, prison-grade stainless steel toilets and cedar plank doors (Gerfen 84). The park further caters to children and teenagers through a skate park, with obstacles such as jumps and half-pipes. The skate park is divided up into different sections depending on the skateboarder's skill level (Gerfen 85). A skate park could be a perfect way for the younger generations in Clarksburg to enjoy their free time. Additionally, the park includes a trendy concession stand, with a view of the baseball fields for those working in the stand. This generates a profit for the community, as well as provides food and beverages for the park's users (Gerfen 85).

Although dealing with a much larger scale and higher density, Thomas Balsley Associates had a similar concept of concession stand in Lions Park. The New York firm designed an architectural pavilion that acts as park offices, a concession stand, and a shade structure for the water taxi dock along the river through Queens. The changing uses of the structure create a broad program, and allow a variety of people to use the park. It engages the community and meets various needs (Zeiger 85). A similar concept is applied to the proposed master plan of Clarksburg. A community building with a kitchen can utilize agricultural produce from within the village and its surrounding area and sell the food for various organizations' profit.

Another park element that should be programmed for Clarksburg's central community core is a playground. It would provide another activity within the village for the children other than skateboarding. There are several new innovative playground equipment pieces available for children and their energy. For warm summer days there is a playground installation named the "Vortex Scorpion" (Speckhardt 95). It provides various types of spraying water, and is shaped like a creature with legs, claws and a tail. Rope adventure playgrounds have become very popular as well. They often include man-made rocks, rope courses, and nets (Speckhardt 95). Children have the ability to play on them like monkeys.

## II.5 History and Art

History of a site can provide inspiration for design in a region, community, gathering space, and varying other scales. It is a precedent that should not be ignored, as the history has shaped the present site. Thomas Balsley and Associates often makes connections to history within their projects. One example is the Riverside Park South in New York City (Zeiger 82). A vintage locomotive is included in the park's plaza as a sculptural element and focal point. Also, the industrial history of the area is connected to the park through wooden boardwalks edged with railroad ties (Zeiger 84). This research focuses on the history and art of the Hopewell Native Americans, the impact they had on the region's landscape, and how it inspires design elements throughout Clarksburg.

Chillicothe, Ohio and its surrounding region was once the home to Native Americans from the Ohio Hopewell Native Americans. They called Southern Ohio their home in the Middle Woodland Period, ranging from 100 B.C. to 400 A.D. Their tribe's name came from Chillicothe, Ohio's Native American leader, Captain M.C. Hopewell (Roza 25). They understood the soil well, and applied their knowledge to crop harvesting and planting, squash being the most heavily-grown crop (Roza 26). They had strong established trade interaction with other Hopewell Native Americans in different locations. This network is known as the Hopewell Interaction Sphere (Roza 26).

The trade network allowed the Ohio Hopewell Native Americans to create artifacts from materials not home to the Southern Ohio region. These exotic materials included conch shells, silver, teeth from various mammals and amphibians, and copper. However they still found local materials such as flint, pipestone and freshwater pearls to be useful (Roza 32). They were good craftsmen, and archaeologists have discovered a variety of artifacts created by them. These include tobacco pipes, copper breastplates, tools, hunting equipment and cloth. Artful artifacts were very prominent and important to these Native Americans. These artifacts

include copper and freshwater pearl beads in jewelry, detailed ornaments, pottery, stone and clay sculptures and flat shapes and figures from mica. "The Hopewell were artists who spent time mastering their crafts...they may have even handed down their works of art from one generation to another" (Roza 34). Many of these pieces of art have been found in the graves of the deceased Native Americans, symbolizing their importance to the culture.

According to Sucher, public art creates a comfort to humans, because it "reminds us that we are not entirely alone. With art and decoration we personalize our built environment" (195). The Ohio Hopewell Native American art pieces can form inspirations for artful design within Clarksburg, creating this comfort Sucher describes. These artful artifacts are abstracted to create a theme throughout the community's landscape.

The Hopewell Native Americans shaped the earth through mound building. In fact, they built more mounds than any other Native American tribe. These were built from generation to generation, and became seemingly larger through the years (Roza 28). They played a prominent role in the culture and community of the tribes. The mounds are formed over structures containing the cremated remains of the deceased, and these structures are thought to be used for burial ceremonies. When these structures no longer had a use, they were burned or disassembled and covered by a mound made of earth, gravel and sand and capped with stones and gravel (Woodward 223). It is also understood that the mound-building was part of an additional ceremony and later large mounds were built over the small mounds (Roza 29).

"Some person has passed this way before and has put some of his or her life, time, and attention into making what we see before us. Public art contributes to the process of place making" (Sucher 195). These mounds represent these past lives and remind us of the importance of these landforms to the Native Americans. These mounds inspire similar



earthworks in an artful context throughout the proposed master plan of Clarksburg. They provide enclosure, promote human scale, and remind us of the region's vibrant history.

There are two historic Ohio Hopewell Native American sites located near my project site: Hopewell Culture National Historical Park and Seip Mound. The Hopewell Culture National Historical Park is located just a few miles north of Chillicothe, Ohio. 15.6 acres include a cluster of 23 mounds known as Mound City (Woodward 222). These make up one of the largest amounts of mounds in one single area for the Hopewell Native Americans. These mounds vary in sizes, shapes and contents. It is surrounded by a rectangular wooden structure, imitating that of the Ohio Hopewell Native Americans. It is 2,050 feet long and 3 feet tall. Some of the artifacts discovered in these specific mounds were effigy pipes, beads and headpieces (Woodward 224).

Seip Mound sits along the Paint Creek Valley, 13 miles west of Chillicothe, Ohio, and is a major earthwork of the Ohio Hopewell Tribe. The mounds on this 121 acre site are in the shapes of squares, circles and a large polygon. It was once surrounded by a 10 feet tall wall. These mounds also included artifacts such as effigy pipes, and also mica, copper and freshwater pearls (Woodward 226). The shapes and geometry of Seip mounds inspire design concepts for the surrounding land around the proposed greenway connection.

The environmental art, new landforms and emphasis on the historical mounds will create conversation pieces and provide elements for observation, thoughts and contemplation. "There can be nothing less barbaric than an object that breaks down the barriers between people and leads them into interesting talk" (Sucher 196). These conversations will lead to a better understanding of the region's important history and culture, and encourage sociability from those involved in conversations about the art.

## II.6 Conclusion

It is evident that greenways create a connecting element for communities within a region. Furthermore, in a rural landscape, often these communities include small rural residential villages. These villages hold much potential to become desirable living communities when they hold a strong sense of place, which can be created through design based on the local culture and environment. An important village component is a central public gathering space or park. These community cores hold various artful elements that obtain economic benefits, recreational use and entertainment values, while also connecting to the village's rich history. The revitalization of Clarksburg includes a centralized community gathering center and a connection with the surrounding communities, allowing Clarksburg to become a desirable model of a rural Midwest village.



## Section III: Design Process

### III.1 Site Location

The project site consists of the entire village of Clarksburg, located in rural Southern Ohio (Figure I.1). Clarksburg is a small village, containing only 0.2 square miles and 516 residents. It is an old, traditional village, founded in 1817 by Colonel William Clark. The median household income is \$32,159. The village includes three churches, a baseball diamond, small playground adjacent to a highway and an apartment building. The village core consists of a traffic light, post office, bank, gas station, and two vacant lots, lacking vitality. Within a 10 mile radius, Clarksburg is completely surrounded by a rural landscape, consisting of farms and fields of corn and soy beans (Figure I.2). Regional connections will be made to the villages and towns located within the Scioto Valley Region. There is an existing greenway already connecting Frankfort and Clarksburg along abandoned railroad tracks.



Figure 1.1: Vicinity Map

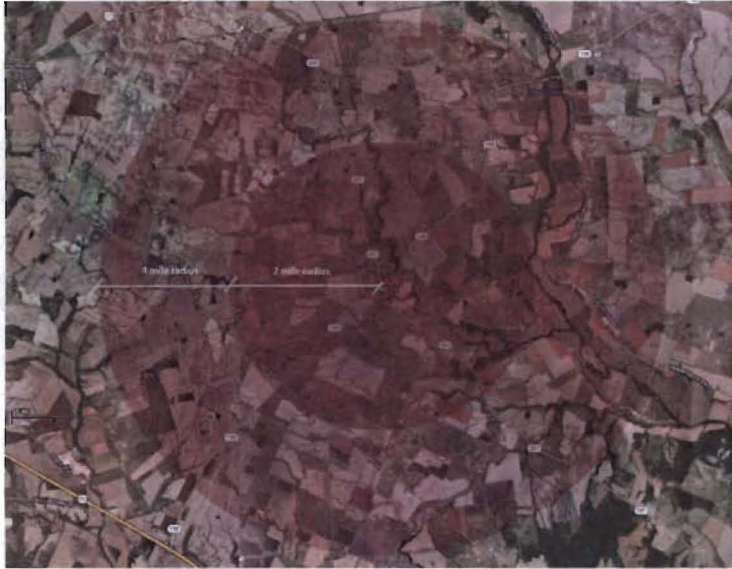


Figure 1.2: Rural Context

The proposed outdoor community gathering space is located around the village's sole stop light. This is the commercial core of the village. The focused site is in the vacant lot south of the Bank adjacent to Main Street, and the High Street-Main Street vacant corner lot. The proposed mound amphitheater site is located in the southwest portion of the village, adjacent to High Street and

the Clarksburg Methodist Church. It is an abandoned lot, and is currently not being maintained. The southern portion of the site has a tree buffer. North and west of the site includes low-income, single-family housing. It is only one block away from the commercial core of the village. Many of the residents frequently pass by the site to go to the Methodist Church, and all of the Clarksburg residents have easy access to it.

### III.2 Program

The program aims to positively impact the village of Clarksburg at the regional, community, and site scale. There is a need for Clarksburg to be connected with other nearby villages and towns, as well as a connection between the residents within Clarksburg. The community can be enhanced with a strong central village core, that provides social spaces for youth, adults, elderly, and community groups to interact as well as exercise. The following design efforts are included in the proposed design:

#### Make regional connections:

- Connect to the existing Tri-County Greenway trails to become connected to Frankfort and Chillicothe.
- Extend further connections to other nearby villages and towns within the Scioto Valley Region, creating an entire greenway and bike trail system.
- Provide trail heads for the trail system users that will allow them to be comfortable when arriving to Clarksburg.

#### Encourage walkability and bicycling within Clarksburg:

- Transform the West-East alleys into pedestrian and bike corridors.
- Encourage the primary users for the North-South alleys to be pedestrians and bicyclists, rather than vehicles.
- Create a physical connection between the existing and proposed parks and outdoor activity, social, and recreational areas.
- Enhance Main Street and High Street by adding street trees and medians that will provide a safer environment for bicyclists and pedestrians.

Provide outdoor spaces for community activities and entertainment, as well as recreational use.

- Define an outdoor space with mounds that can be used as seating for an outdoor movie screen and sledding for the winter.
- Provide a youth-sized basketball court, with an accompanying storage building with community basketballs, as well as benches for adults keeping watch of their children.
- Utilize a vacant lot for a multi-purpose parking area that can be transformed into an outdoor market area during the weekends.
- Compose a building that contains a community kitchen that can be used by local organizations for fundraising.
- Include an outdoor dining area adjacent to the community kitchen.
- Design an open play area for children to be active.
- Place an outdoor stage for small performances, along with a dance floor.

Capture a sense of community within the village.

- Create a space for an American flag and historic monument.
- Connect to the region's history by using the Native American Hopewell Artifacts as design inspiration.
- Construct a strong sense of arrival and village feeling for those driving through Clarksburg along the State Routes with the implementation of street trees along Main Street and High Street.



### III.3 Site Photos



Figure 3.1: Greenway Bridge and 3.2: Greenway Path (left) A viewshed of a small vehicular bridge is revealed along the existing Tri-County Triangle Greenway. (right) The existing Tri-County Triangle Greenway is often used by pedestrians and bicyclists during the warm seasons.

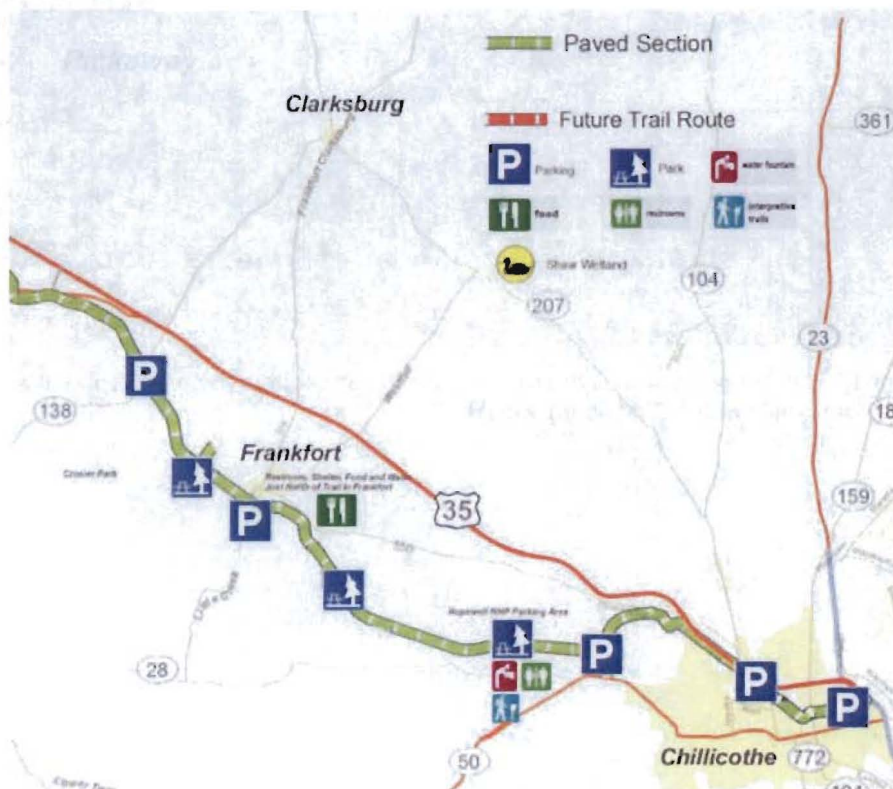


Figure 3.3: The existing Tri-County Greenway. This existing greenway connects Chillicothe, Frankfort, and Greenfield. Clarksburg is located 10 miles North of the trail.





Figure 3.4: Water Tower. The Clarksburg water tower is surrounded by the village's only current recreational space: baseball fields.



Figure 3.5: Playground. The existing playground is in poor condition, but serves as the only community play space for children.



Figure 3.6: Community. This image illustrates the view across the street from the playground. It represents a typical image of the community within Clarksburg.



Figure 3.7: Gas Station. Adjacent to the only traffic light in Clarksburg is a gas station and convenience store.



Figure 3.8: Post Office. The central core of the village has a post office for residents' convenience.



Figure 3.9: Vacant Central Village Lot and Figure 3.10: Vacant Bank Lot. These lots are underutilized, with the perfect location for the proposed community hub at the core of the village.





Figure 3.11: Residential Area. This typical view of the residences in Clarksburg provides an understanding of the current feel of the community.



Figure 3.12: Typical Street. The existing streets have some beautiful, old trees, but they do not line the street. The sidewalks are currently in poor condition.



Figure 3.13: Open Space Behind Methodist Church. This is an underutilized landscape that provides the location for the proposed mounds and outdoor movie theatre.

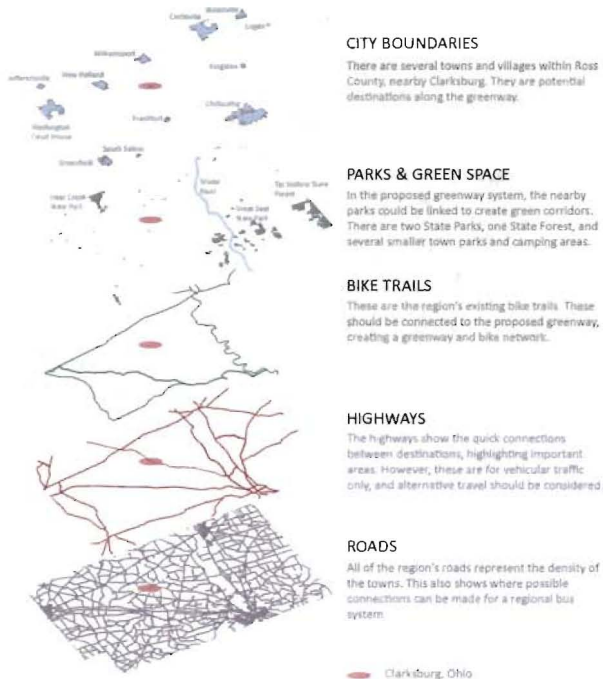


Figure 3.14: Vacant Lot Near Methodist Church. This is a new view of the open space near the Clarksburg Methodist Church.

### III.4 Inventory and Analysis

#### SCIOTO RIVER VALLEY, OHIO: CONNECTING CLARKSBURG WITH A REGIONAL GREENWAY SYSTEM

##### INVENTORY & ANALYSIS



##### CONCEPTUAL ROUTES

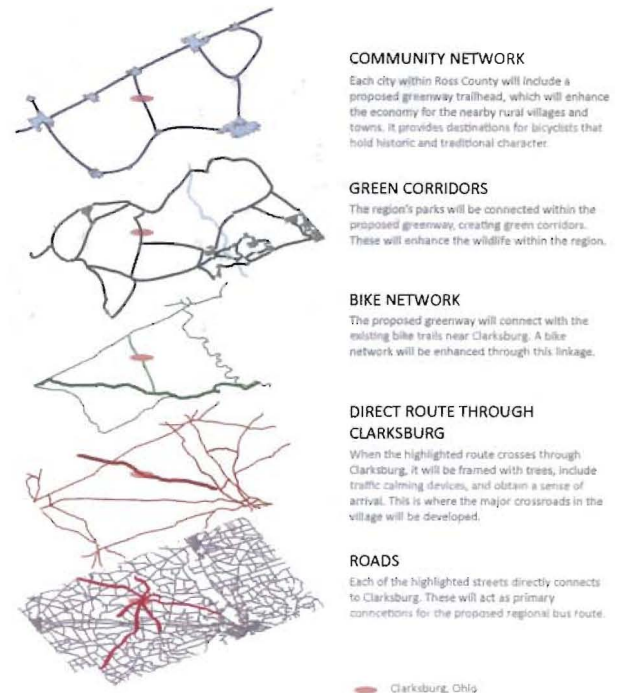


Figure 4.1: Scioto River Valley Greenway Network. The nearby town and village locations, existing green space, bike trails, highways and roads directly affect where the greenway trails are proposed.

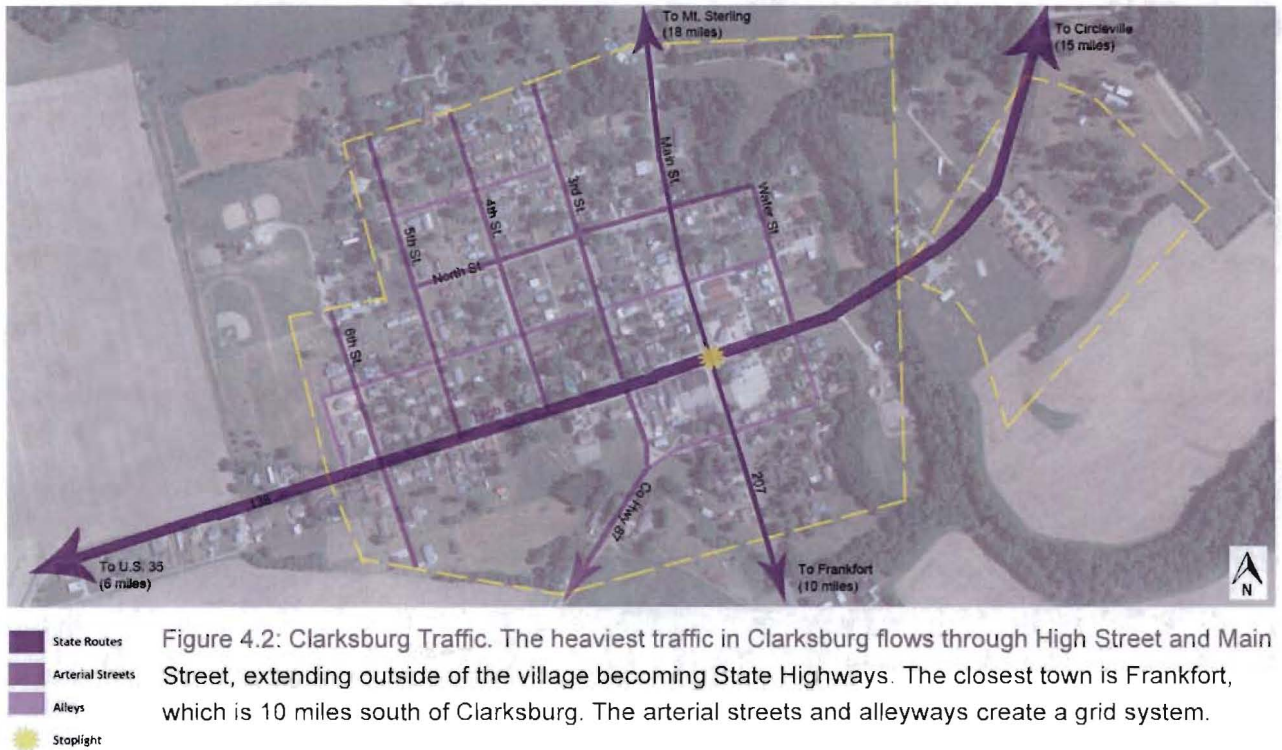


Figure 4.2: Clarksburg Traffic. The heaviest traffic in Clarksburg flows through High Street and Main Street, extending outside of the village becoming State Highways. The closest town is Frankfort, which is 10 miles south of Clarksburg. The arterial streets and alleyways create a grid system.





Figure 4.3: Land Use. Most of Clarksburg is filled with residential lots. However, there are two existing green spaces: baseball fields and a playground in poor condition. There are three churches, each that holds a variety of church activities and organizations. Overall, most of the businesses surround the sole stop light. These consist of a bank, gas station, and insurance building. There also is a municipal building and post office. There are two vacant lots, and one vacant parking lot.

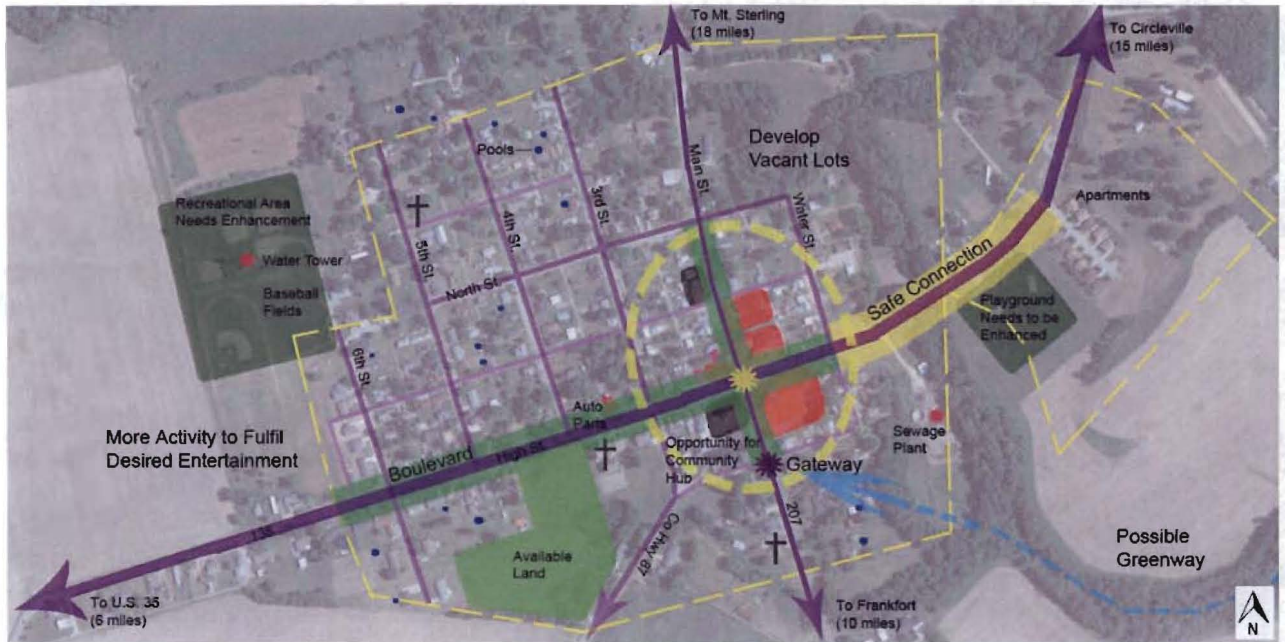


Figure 4.4: Analysis. The site's constraints and opportunities are displayed. There lacks a sense of place and arrival along High Street and Main Street. This provides an opportunity for a boulevard and complete streets. Furthermore, A greenway connection could be made to these streets. The playground and baseball fields should be enhanced to increase activity usage. The main focus needs to be around the stop light where the businesses are located. There are two vacant spaces that could be cohesively designed to provide recreation and an outdoor community activity space. Furthermore, There is available land near the Methodist Church. This too provides an opportunity for year-round entertainment to take place.

### III.5 Case Studies: National Heritage Corridor Greenway



Figure 5.1: National Heritage Corridor Trail



Figure 5.2: Magnolia Flouring Mills

The National Heritage Corridor Greenway in Stark County, Ohio (Figure 5.1) provides a great case study for a greenway system linking small towns and villages near Clarksburg, Ohio. Environmental Design Group and Schmidt Copeland Parker Stevens were the landscape architecture firms that were the primary designers of this greenway. The finished project implements 21 sections of looping off-road trails, connecting seventeen townships and fifteen existing villages and cities of varying sizes, reaching all of Stark County's residents. These connections are not just merely population connections, but the greenway also connects cultural and natural features. The National Heritage Corridor utilizes neotraditional design. To further strengthen the villages' sense of community, historic landscape features are revealed and connected to the present cultural features through the greenway (Figure 5.2).



### III.6 Case Studies: Mississippi Greenway Strategy



Figure 6.1: The Mississippi Greenway

The Mississippi Greenway Strategic Plan was generated for the city of Hastings, Minnesota and designed by the landscape architects of Hoisington Koegler Group Inc. The greenway primarily linked woodlots, streambeds, and parks without interrupting the development that already existed (Figure 6.1). It had many ecological benefits through supporting species migration, diversity, aquifer recharge, wetland, and steep slopes. The greenway ran along corridors and ridges. Most of the greenway is at least 150' wide in order to support species mitigation. However, part of the greenway acts as an edge and buffer for the rural landscape rather than attending to ecology. Lastly, it has raised public awareness for the surrounding community, allowing the public to realize the importance of rural landscape preservation and ecology.

### III.7 Case Studies: Rural Studio's Lions Park

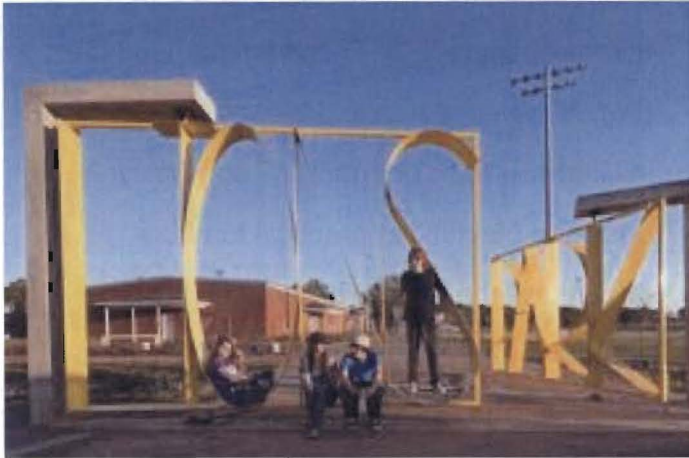


Figure 7.1: Lions Park

Rural Studio is a design-build studio course for Auburn University students completing an architecture thesis project. The projects are located in the countryside of Hale County in Alabama. They not only focus on building the designs, but also the community. Their philosophy revolves around “Small Site, Big Change”, acknowledging that everyone deserves to live in a well-designed place, no matter how rich or poor, or how big or small the community. Throughout the years, a primary site for Rural Studio projects is Lions Park (Figure 7.1). This park is located in Greensboro, Alabama, and provides the largest park space in Hale County. There are nine completed and ongoing projects for Lions Park including baseball fields, concessions, a park hub, playscape, restrooms, skatepark, surfaces, Cub Scout and Boy Scout building, and the parkscape.



Figure 7.2: Lions Park Pedestrian Crossing



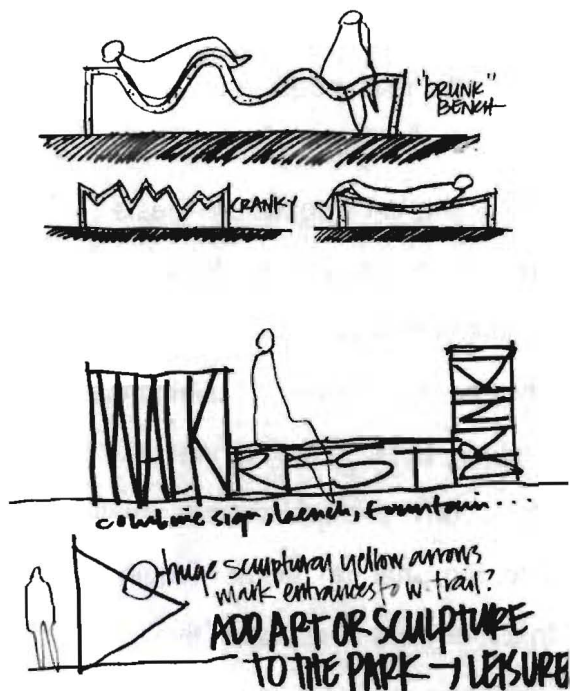


Figure 7.3: Lions Park Furniture Concepts



Figure 7.4: Lions Park Concession Stand

For Lions Park, they designed uniform crosswalks throughout the park, in a fun manner (Figure 7.2). These encouraged the proposed pedestrian and bicycle corridors in Clarksburg. Furthermore, Rural Design designed playful, yet practical furniture throughout the park (Figure 7.3). This is important for every outdoor space where people will be walking, and informed the furniture decisions in Clarksburg. The concession stand in Lions Park informed the design decision to have a community kitchen at the core of Clarksburg, where organizations could sell food and/or baked goods for fundraising (Figure 7.4).

### III.8 Case Studies: Ohio Hopewell Native American Mounds



Figure 8.1: Hopewell Culture National Historic Park. There are several Hopewell Native American earthworks found in this location, just 12 miles away from Clarksburg, Ohio. These provide great historical references, as well as precedents for landforms throughout the village of Clarksburg.

### III.9 Case Studies: Ohio Hopewell Native American Artifacts



Figure 9.1: Bird Claw (left). Figure 9.2: Copper Plates (middle). Figure 9.3: Hand Effigy (right). The above three images are artifacts found from historic Ohio Hopewell Native American sites. These are used as precedents for conceptual design forms throughout the proposed Clarksburg master plan and plan enlargement, providing more meaning behind design decisions.



### III.10 Case Studies: Maya Lin's Earthworks

Maya Lin is known for innovatively sculpting the earth to create unique places. She was raised in rural Ohio, and is very familiar with the Ohio Hopewell Native American landforms, which have acted as inspiration in many of her designs.

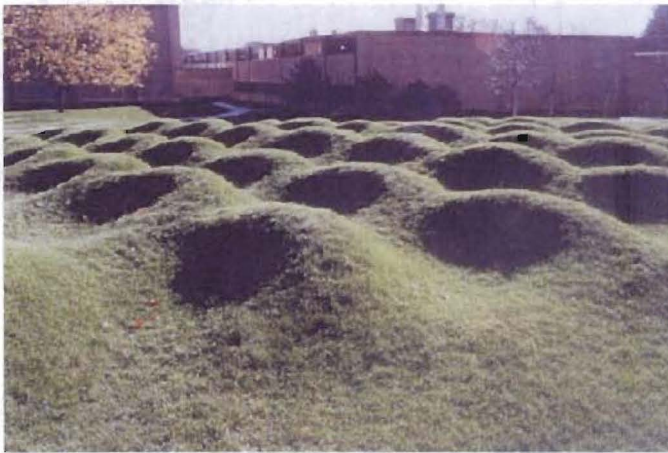


Figure 10.1: Wave Field (left). It is located at the University of Michigan, in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Figure 10.2: Storm King Wavefield (right). It is located at Storm King Art Center in Mountainville, New York.



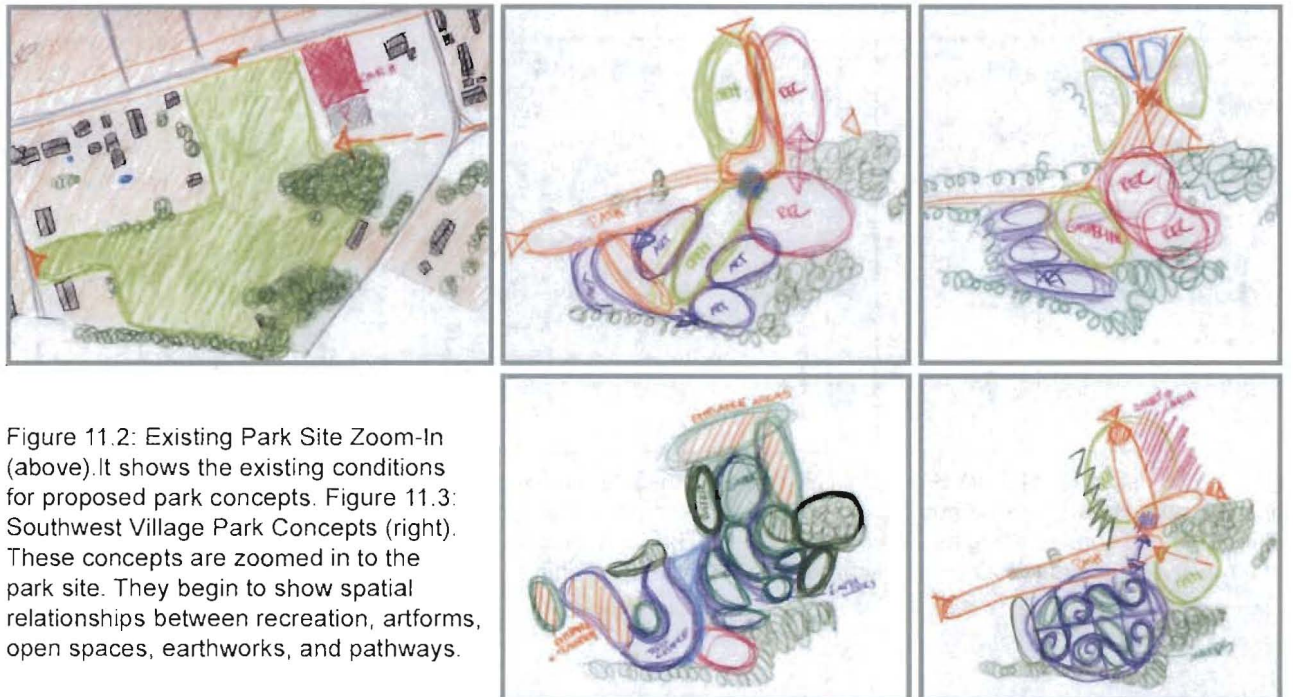
Figure 10.3: Eleven Minute Line. It is found in Wanås, Sweden and strongly symbolizes Ohio's Serpent Mound.



### III.11 Design Concepts



Figure 11.1: Southwest Village Quadrant Park. The proposed greenway connection is made at this park location and further connects to the existing parks via a complete street. The east-west alleys are bicycle and pedestrian corridors, and there are three north-south streets that give priority to pedestrians and bicyclists over vehicles. There is a community center near the traffic light.





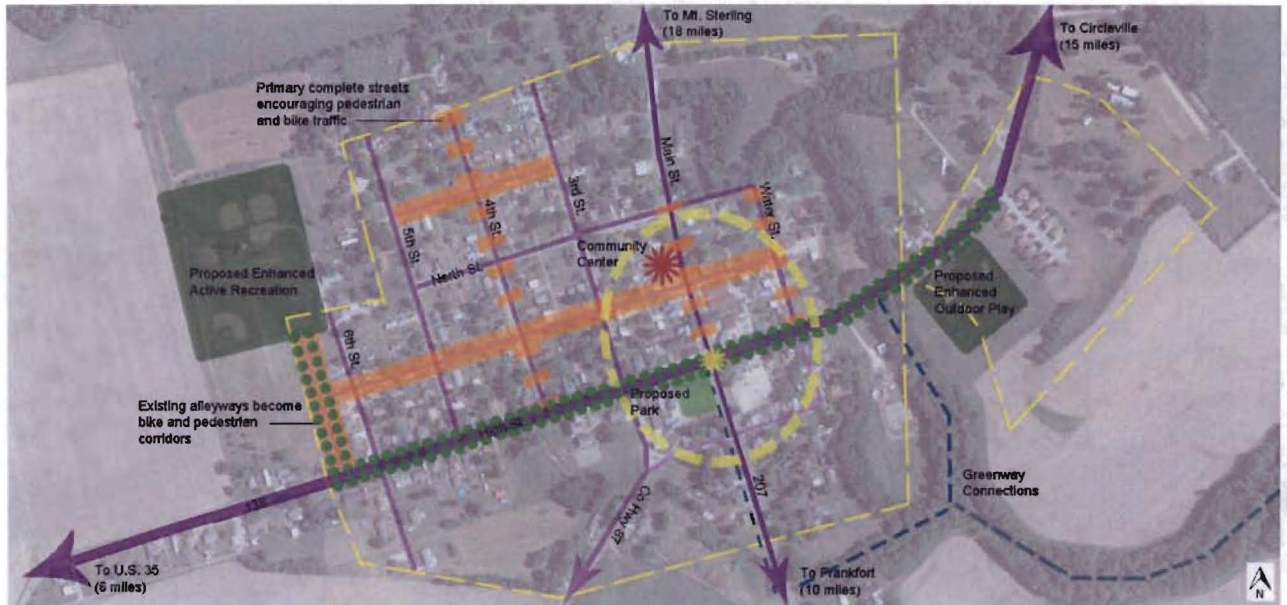


Figure 11.4: Central Village Park. This village concept focuses on a centralized park next to the traffic light. The proposed greenway connection is made at this park location and further connects to the existing parks via a complete street. The east-west alleys are bicycle and pedestrian corridors, and there are three north-south complete streets within the village. There is a community center in the vacant gas station lot. This allows a variety of activities to all occur at the village core.

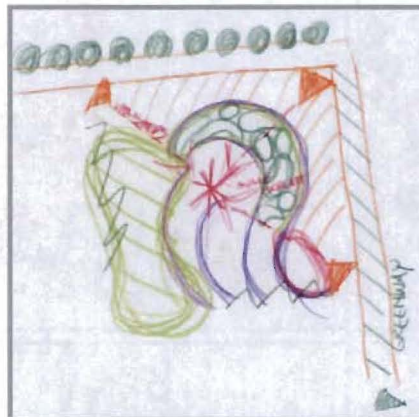
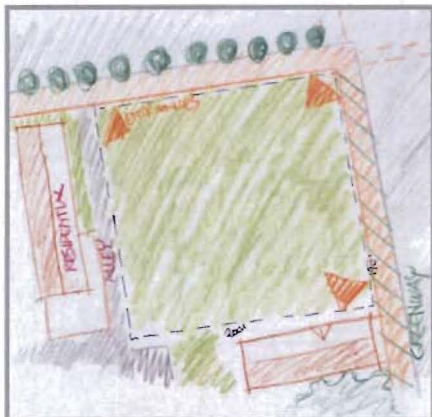


Figure 11.5 Existing Small Park Site (left). This sketch is the site base map for the zoomed-in small central proposed park. Here, the buildings have been removed from the site. Figure 1216 Mound Plazas (middle and right) These concepts begins to show forms for the park. In the center is an outdoor movie screen with surrounding mounds for seating. Hardscape and softscape can begin to interact.



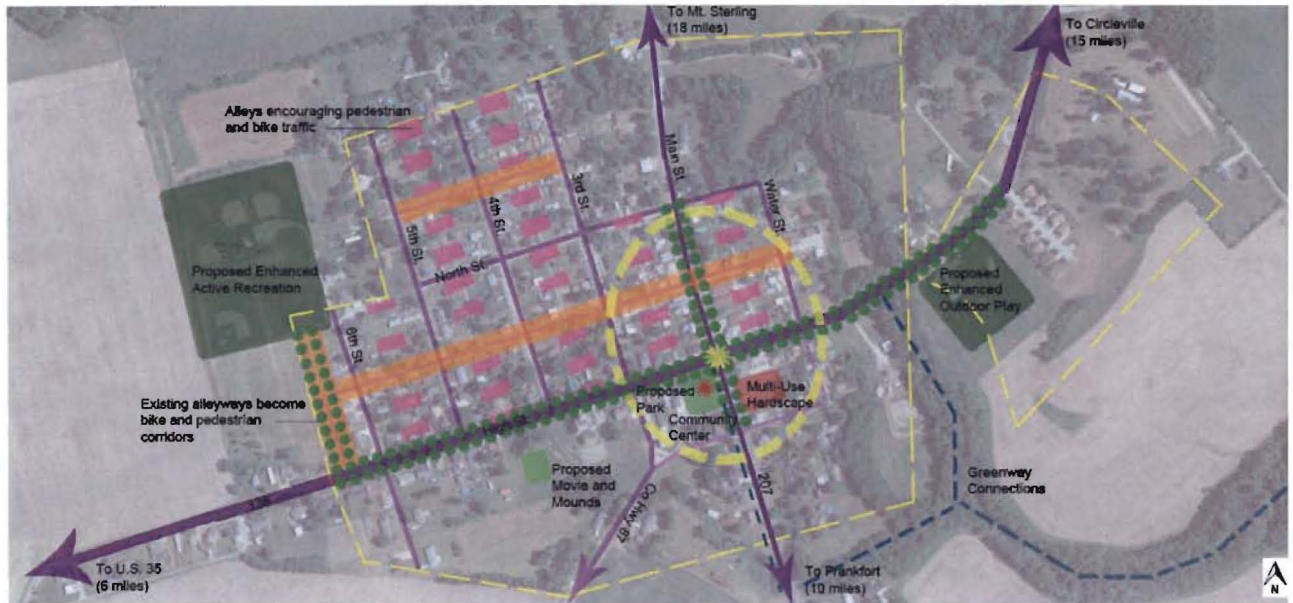


Figure 11.7: Central Outdoor Community Hub. The proposed greenway connection is made at this gathering space location and further connects to the existing parks via a complete street. The east-west alleys are bicycle and pedestrian corridors, and the north-south alleys' give priority to pedestrians and bicyclists over vehicles. The proposed outdoor community hub connects to a multi-use hardscape behind the bank, used for children's recreation, parking, and markets.

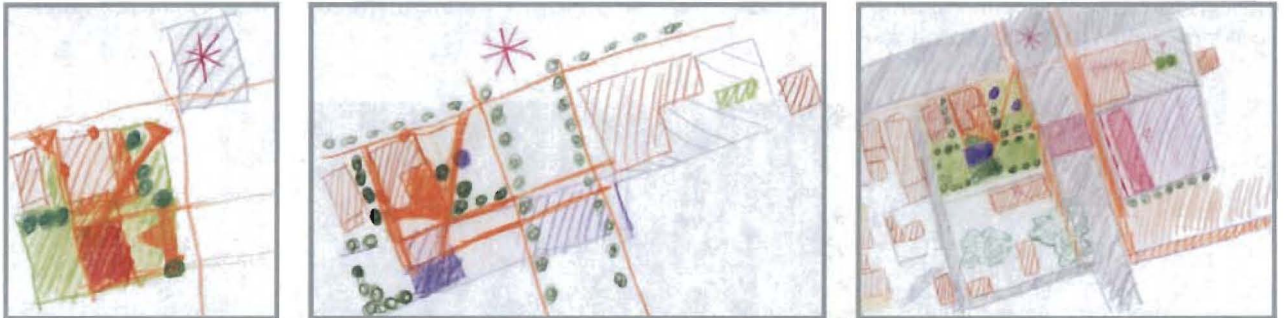


Figure 11.8: Community Hub Concepts. These show the progression of spatial relationships, connections, and forms.

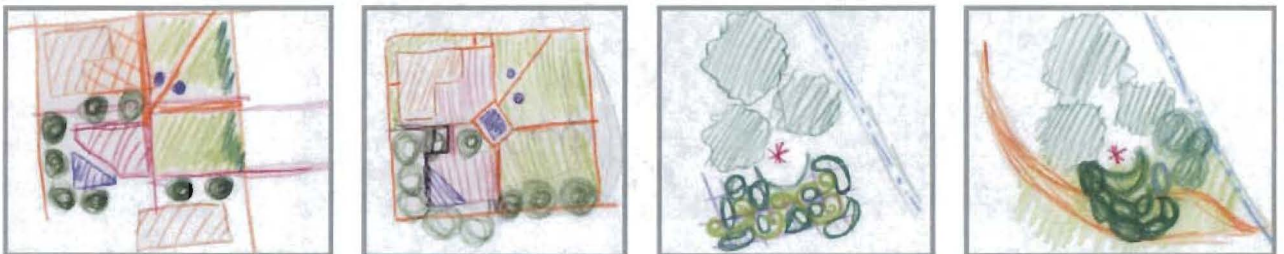


Figure 11.9: Refined Community Hub concepts. These concepts begin to show better dimensioned objects.

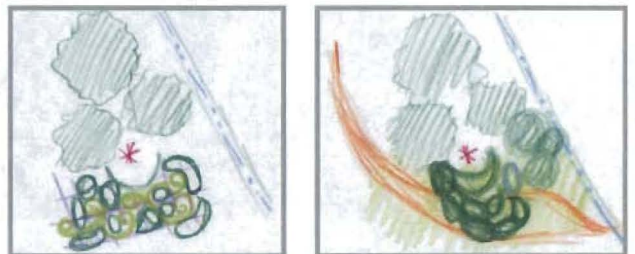


Figure 11.10: Outdoor Mound Movie Concepts. These are inspired by Hopewell Native Americans.

### III.12 Regional Greenway and Bicycle Network

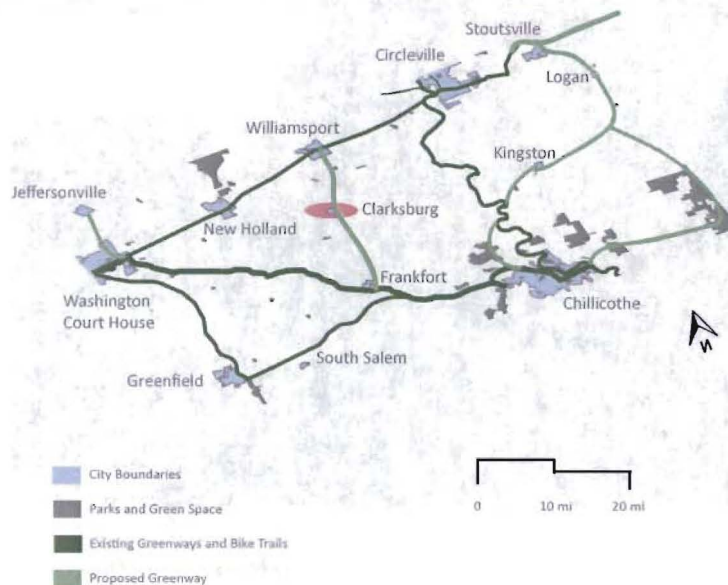


Figure 12.1: Scioto River Valley Ohio: Proposed Regional Greenway Network The proposed greenway and bicycle network connects Clarksburg to the nearby villages and towns, encouraging traveling and recreation. This will have positive economic impacts for these towns and villages. Furthermore, the greenway creates green corridors, improving wildlife conditions.



Figure 12.2: Clarksburg Greenway Connection. The greenway will come from the nearby stream and enter into Clarksburg towards Main Street, passing through the proposed outdoor community hub.



### III.13 Master Plan



Figure 13.1: Master Plan. The master plan implements street trees along Main and High Street. This creates a sense of arrival for those traveling through Clarksburg by car. The greenway connects to the village along Main Street. This allows a direct connection to the central outdoor community hub and public restrooms. Furthermore, the boulevard along High Street connects the playground, community gathering space, outdoor theatre with mound seating, and the baseball fields. A bus stop is implemented with the gas station to help with creating regional connections. A daycare building infills a vacant lot to help local families. A variety of pavement patterns show a distinction for areas where pedestrians and bicyclists receive priority.

### III.14 Plan Enlargement: Central Community Hub

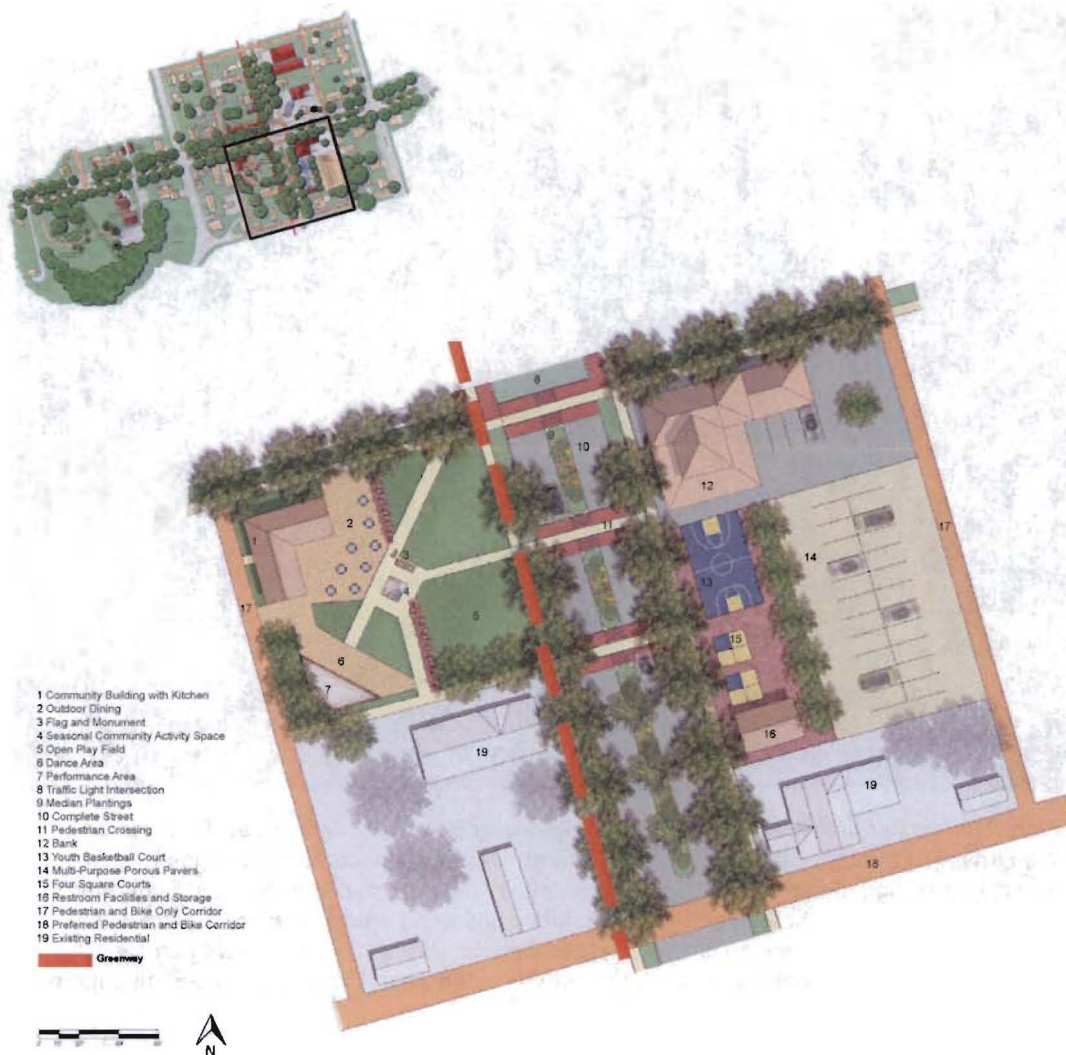


Figure I4.I: Plan Enlargement. The central outdoor hub acts as infill for a vacant lot located in the core of the village. It includes a community building with a kitchen, outdoor dining, a flag post, a village monument, some small earthworks, a base for a community Christmas tree, a stage for small performances, and a dancefloor. Directly across Main Street is a youth-size basketball court, seating, two 4-square courts, and a storage and restroom facility. This is infill for the oversized parking lot of the bank. The proposed parking lot has parking pavers and can be used for a market space during the off-hours of the bank.



### III.15 Proposed Streets and Corridors

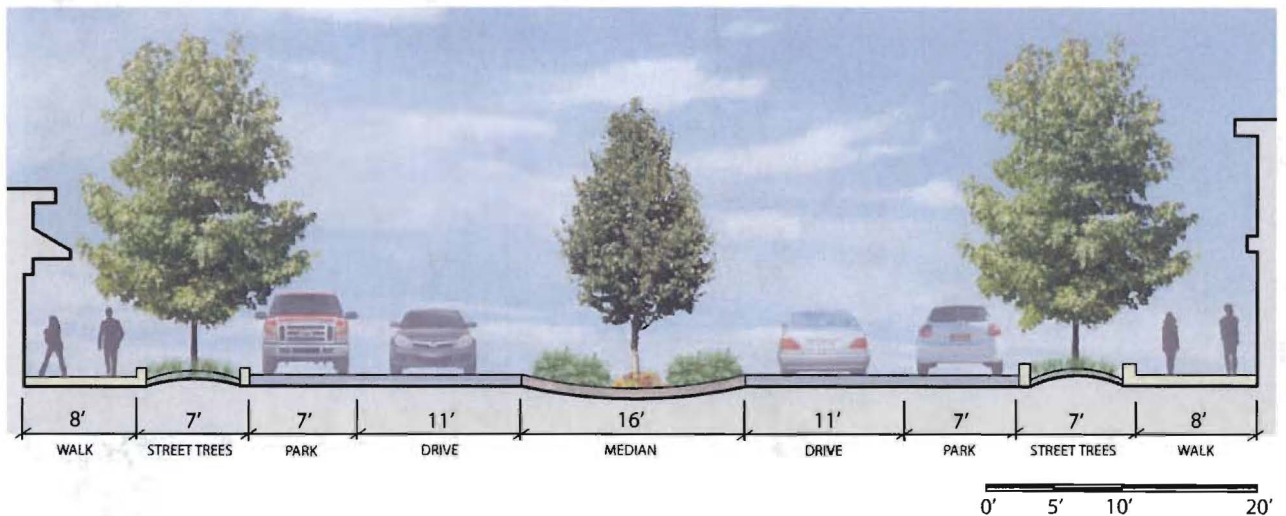


Figure 15.1: Streetscape. This section illustrates an enhanced streetscape along High Street and Main Street. The new streetscape elements enhance the sense of place and arrival for those passing through Clarksburg. The image illustrates a walkable community, with sidewalks next to the building fronts, street trees, on-street parking, and medians.



Figure 16.2 Pedestrian and Bicycle Corridor. The underutilized alleyways have been transformed into pedestrian and bicycle corridors. They have a brick pavement, allowing a uniform pattern to connect throughout Clarksburg. Traditional street furniture was added to enhance the sense of community, comfort and safety for the users.

### III.16 Proposed Earthworks



Figure I6.1: Existing Open Space for Mounds. The current space near the Methodist Church is underutilized.



Figure I6.2: Outdoor Movie Screen. Mounds surround the screen and are used for seating during the warm seasons. The mounds relate to the Hopewell Native Americans that once lived in the regions.





Figure 16.3: Winter Mounds. The mounds are utilized for sledding and playing during the winter. They also provide interesting forms when covered by snow creating unique views for those walking by.



### III.17 Greenway Vision



Figure 17.1: Greenway Vision. There is an abundance of plantings with seasonal interest along the trail. Furthermore, the trail encourages nearby residents to exercise by either walking, biking, jogging or roller-blading.



## III.18 Youth Play Space



Figure 18.1: Existing Bank Lot. The lack of aesthetic appeal, maintenance, and utilization provides the opportunity for a recreational space.



Figure 18.2: Youth Play Space. The youth-sized basketball court provides the children in Clarksburg with a place to play, have fun, and exercise. The median separates the court with the multi-purpose parking lot. The benches and trees help buffer the children from the street.

## III.19 Construction Documentation

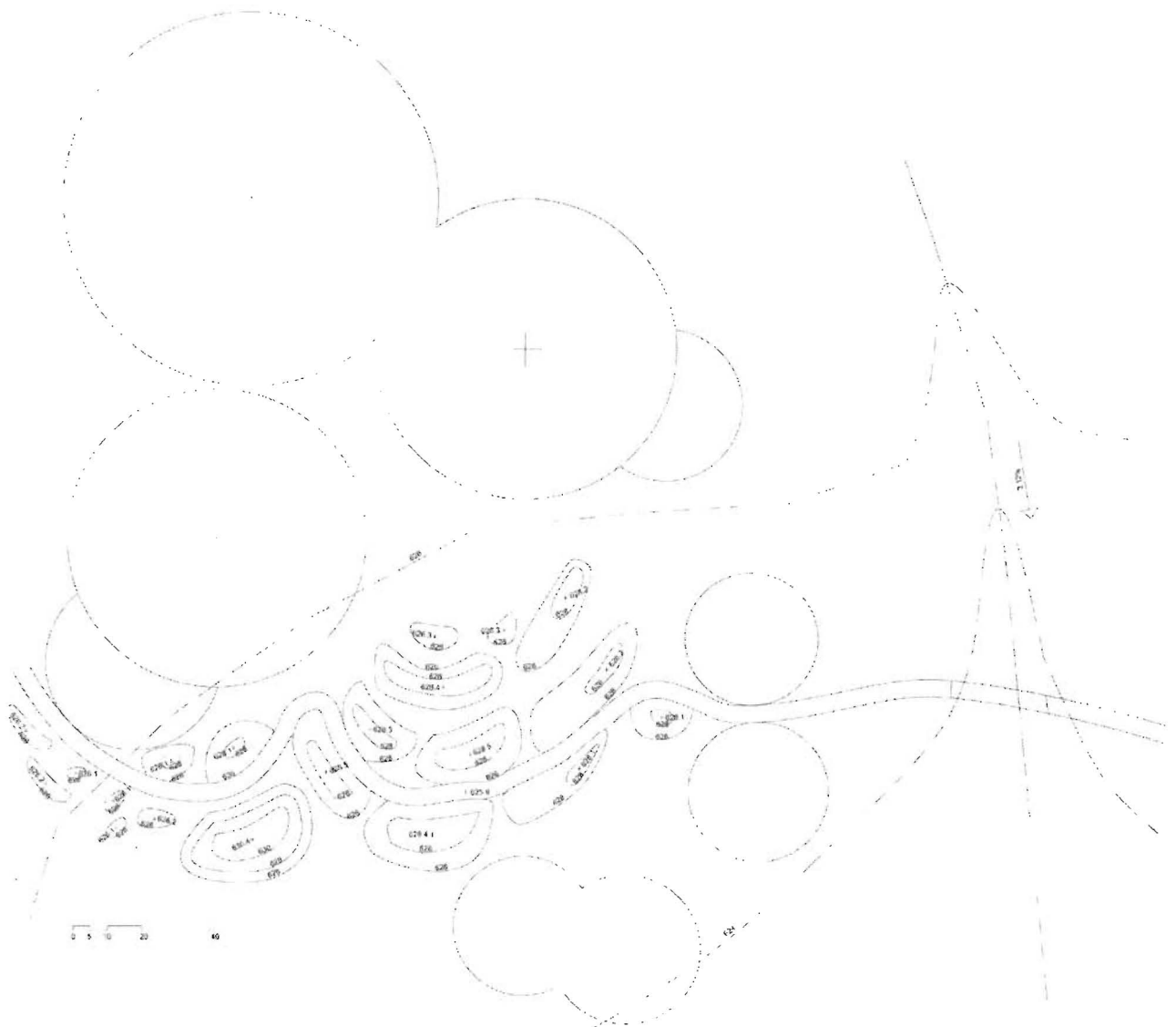


Figure 19.1: Mound Area Grading Plan. This illustrates the proposed and existing topography of the mound area, and how water flows through the site.

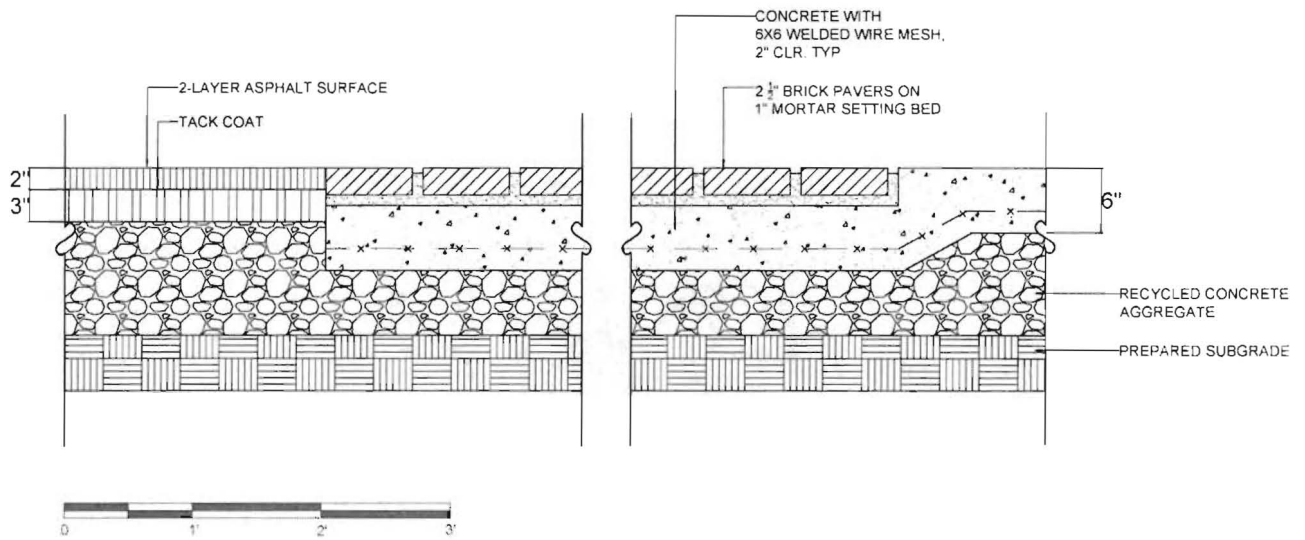


Figure 20.2: Materials Detail. This represents how the ground materials will correspond to one another.



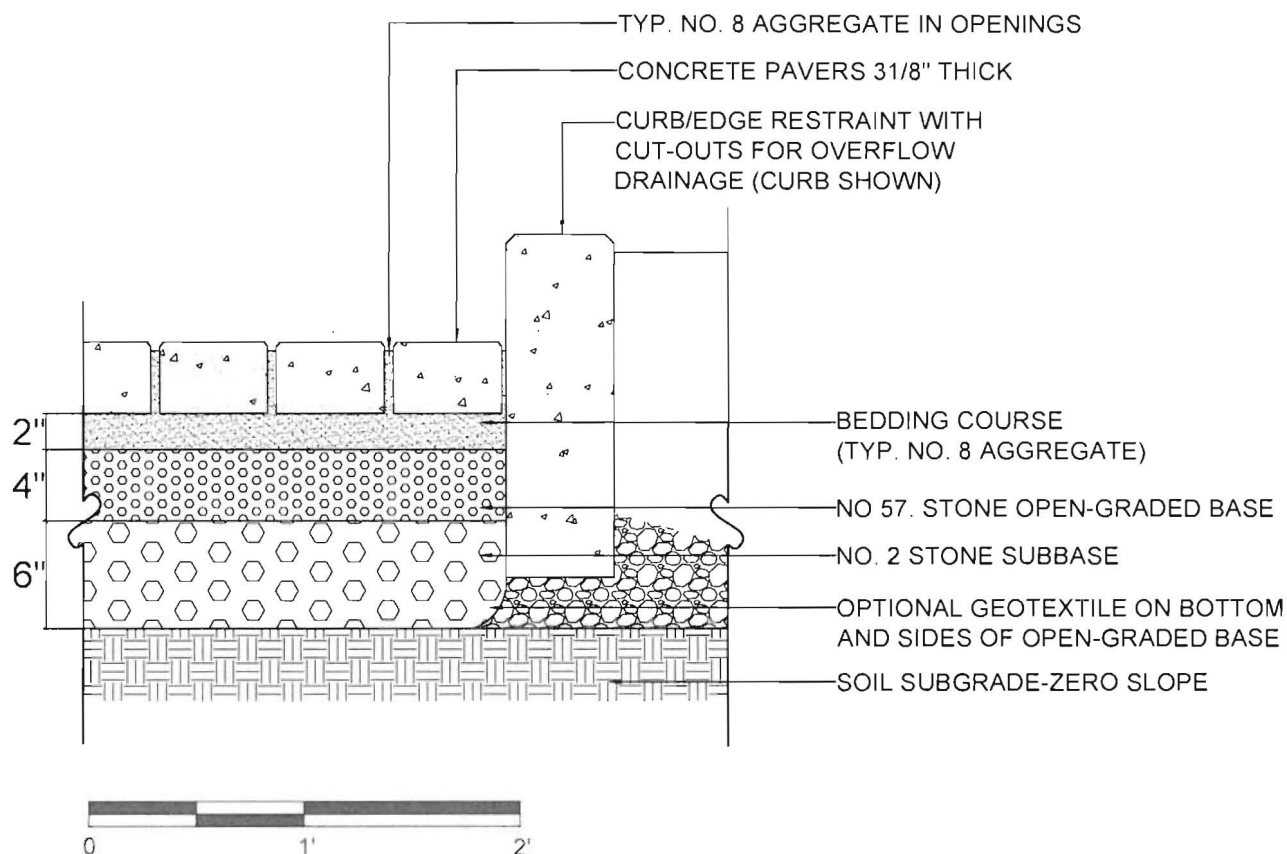


Figure 19.3: Permeable Pavers. The permeable pavers from the proposed multi-purpose parking lot will be detailed as such.

# Conclusion

Clarksburg, Ohio provides a great design opportunity for improving the standards of living for a rural village. This comprehensive project can serve as an inspiration for upcoming projects that uplift similar communities. No matter the size, or location of a community, everyone deserves well-designed outdoor spaces.

Creating regional connections through greenway and bicycle networks allows rural residents to travel from one village or town to the next while also being healthy and exercising. Furthermore, designed spaces that are used for community members and organizations to hold events and interact with one another, and for children to play together in a safe space are desirable for those living in the village, as well as those passing through via the greenway.

Inexpensive activities, such as outdoor movie areas, allow residents to reach the “village feel” and closeness to their neighbor. It is with these community-wide activities that strong relationships form, and create the ideal atmosphere to be apart of. As a designer, we can design the spaces for these activities and relationships to occur, and in this setting, the “village feel” will follow. It is through these design improvements that daily interactions are improved for those within the rural village.

## Appendix A: Timeline

General Category of Design	Data Needed	Data Type	Location/Source	Time frame (week to be completed)
Initial/Early Design Inquiries and explorations. Assignment 1.	Existing site conditions at the regional, community and site scale. Photographs	Primary	Chillicothe, Clarksburg and Frankfort, Ohio. Self-observation	Week 1
Alternative Conceptual Design Development. Site visit and client meetings. Progress presentations.	Precedents, case studies, park elements, greenway methods and successful village design concepts	Primary and Secondary	Books, case studies, journals	Weeks 2-3
Determining/Selecting of Final Design Concept			Critiques, Consult with Advisor	Weeks 4
Schematic Design Development. Progress presentations and Midterm Presentations.			Consult with Advisor and critiques	Weeks 5-7
Final Design Refinements			Consult with Advisor	Week 8
Final Design Details. Work on Booklet. Midterm report due.			Consult with Advisor	Week 9-10
Final Design Detail Refinements and Pre-final Presentations			Consult with Advisor	Week 11-12
Complete Drawings and Prepare final Presentation				Week 13
Final Public Presentation(s)				Week 14
Final Report and Final Board				Weeks 15-17



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